

Message Text

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TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 081239

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, MASS, SREF, SHUM, PORG, XE

SUBJECT: WEEKLY STATUS REPORT

TO: EA - MR. HOLBROOKE

FROM: EA/RA - ROBERT J. MARTENS

SUBJECT: WEEKLY STATUS REPORT

1. REFUGEES (CONFIDENTIAL)

EA/RA ORGANIZED A MEETING TODAY BETWEEN DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OAKLEY AND SHEP LOWMAN, HANK CUSHING, AND LANG SCHERMERHORN OF HA/ORM TO DISCUSS LONG TERM REFUGEE POLICY IN GENERAL AND A BRIEFING PAPER FOR VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE IN PARTICULAR. LANG AND FRANK BENNETT WILL DRAFT A PAPER SPECIFICALLY ADDRESSING WHAT WE COULD OFFER TO
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DO FOR THE RTG TO ASSIST IN AND ENCOURAGE RESETTLEMENT OF REFUGEES IN THAILAND. THE PAPER WILL HAVE TO BE CLEARED WITH THE PRESIDENT.

2. HUMAN RIGHTS (LOU)

THERE ARE A NUMBER OF HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIONS PENDING IN-

CLUDING A PAPER ON POLICE EQUIPMENT BEING DRAFTED BY MIKE EILAND AND A MEETING TOMORROW BETWEEN DEPUTY ASSISTANT OAKLEY AND SCHNEIDER (HA/ORM) ON THE ONE HAND AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COALITION FOR A NEW FOREIGN AND MILITARY POLICY ON THE OTHER. SPECIFIC ATTENTION WILL PRESUMABLY BE GIVEN TO THE COALITION'S CRITICISMS OF THE DEPARTMENT'S HUMAN RIGHTS PAPERS FOR INDONESIA, SOUTH KOREA, THE PHILIPPINES AND THAILAND. AS YOU ARE AWARE, THE COALITION ON MARCH 22 ISSUED A PAPER CALLING FOR A CUT OFF IN SECURITY ASSISTANCE TO THESE AND NINE OTHER COUNTRIES.

3. HUMAN RIGHTS AND ARMS SALES FOR POLICE FUNCTIONS
(CONFIDENTIAL)

AS MENTIONED ABOVE, THE BUREAU IS NOW CONSIDERING THE FIRST GROUP OF CASES INVOLVING SALES OF POLICE EQUIPMENT TO EA COUNTRIES TO BE PROCESSED SINCE THE APPEARANCE OF PD-30 AND SUBSEQUENT POLICY DISCUSSIONS BY THE DEPUTY SECRETARY ON HOW POLICE EQUIPMENT SALES ARE TO BE TREATED. PRIOR TO THESE DECISIONS, A NUMBER OF SALES HAD BEEN BLOCKED BY HA ON HUMAN RIGHTS GROUNDS BUT WITHOUT ANY REAL GUIDELINES FOR DEALING WITH THE ISSUES. WE NEED TO CONSIDER NOT ONLY THE PARTICULAR CASES ON THEIR INDIVIDUAL MERITS BUT TO ENSURE THAT INDIVIDUAL DECISIONS DO
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NOT LEAD TO UNFORTUNATE PRECEDENTS AS TO WHICH COUNTRIES ARE TO BE REGARDED AS "SERIOUS VIOLATORS". WE WILL BE FORWARDING PROPOSALS TO YOU SHORTLY ON THIS SUBJECT.

4. CONGRESSIONAL COMMENTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS (UNCLASSIFIED)

FIVE CONGRESSMEN FROM THE BANKING AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEES (MOORHEAD, D-PA; MINISH, D-NJ; LAFALCE, D-NY; STANTON, R-O; BROWN, R-MICH; HYDE, R-ILL) WROTE TO THE PRESIDENT ON MARCH 16 REGARDING A RECENT TRIP TO LATIN AMERICA TO LOOK INTO THE ECONOMIC EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNATIONAL LENDING AGENCIES. THE LETTER ASSERTS THAT "OVERLY RIGID APPLICATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS POSITIONS BY ECONOMIC SANCTIONS THROUGH MULTILATERAL AGENCIES ARE NOT EFFECTIVE AND ARE PROBABLY COUNTERPRODUCTIVE." IT ALSO STATES THAT THE PEOPLE OF THE COUNTRIES VISITED "SEEM TO BELIEVE THAT MORAL SUASION AND THE POWER OF WORLD OPINION WERE MORE EFFECTIVE IN ACHIEVING PROGRESS TOWARD HUMAN RIGHTS THAN ECONOMIC SANCTIONS...".

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5. EAST ASIAN PARTICIPATION IN UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
(UNCLASSIFIED)

WE NOTED LAST WEEK OUR CONCERN OVER THE LACK OF EAST ASIAN PARTICIPATION IN THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION. NOW, HOWEVER, WE HAVE RECEIVED NOTICE OF TWO EA CANDIDACIES--THE PHILIPPINES AND FIJI. ELECTIONS WILL TAKE PLACE IN ECOSOC THIS SPRING.

6. PAYING FOR THE UN FORCE IN LEBANON (CONFIDENTIAL)

ON APRIL 20-21 THE GA WILL MEET IN A SPECIAL SESSION TO PROVIDE FOR THE FINANCES OF THE UN FORCE IN LEBANON (UNIFIL) (THIS IS IN ADDITION TO THE SPECIAL SESSIONS
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ON NAMIBIA, APRIL 24 AND ON DISARMAMENT MAY 23-JUNE 28). THERE IS CONCERN THAT THERE WILL BE PROBLEMS IN ARRANGING FOR THE FINANCES FOR UNIFIL AND THAT SOME MAY ARGUE THAT THE ISRAELIS AS THE "AGGRESSORS" SHOULD BEAR THE COST. EVEN WITHOUT THIS ARGUMENT THERE ARE QUESTIONS AS TO WHAT SCALE OF ASSESSMENT MIGHT BE USED. THE US WILL TAKE ITS STANDARD POSITION THAT THE FINANCING OF THE FORCE IS THE COLLECTIVE FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE MEMBERSHIP. WE ARE FOR NOW, HOWEVER, LETTING THE LEBANESE TAKE THE LEAD ON THIS ISSUE, ESPECIALLY WITH THE ARABS. AS WE NOTED LAST WEEK THE CHINESE HAVE ALREADY SAID THEY WILL TAKE NO PART IN FINANCING UNIFIL AND THE SOVIETS HAVE ALSO TAKEN A NEGATIVE STANCE.

7. PROPOSALS TO STRENGTHEN OUR SCIENTIFIC CAPACITY
(LOU)

LOUISE MCNUTT HAS BEEN WORKING ON A NUMBER OF PROPOSALS AIMED AT STRENGTHENING AND ENLARGING THE CAPACITY OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE AND THE DEPARTMENT TO DEAL WITH AN INCREASING AGENDA OF SCIENTIFIC PROBLEMS. SOME OF THE SUGGESTIONS ARE QUITE FAR REACHING. TOGETHER WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER GEOGRAPHIC BUREAUS I MET LAST FRIDAY WITH DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY NYE OF T TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSALS. AT HIS REQUEST WE AND OTHER BUREAUS ARE WORKING ON FORMAL POSITIONS ON THE T PROPOSALS TO BE GIVEN TO NYE'S OFFICE BY APRIL 15.

8. COUNTRY DATA SHEETS (UNCLASSIFIED)

ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM S/S, WE HAVE BEEN COORDINATING DESK PREPARATION OF UNCLASSIFIED DATA SHEETS ON COUNTRIES RECEIVING FOREIGN ASSISTANCE FOR USE BY MEMBERS OF CON-
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GRESS. ALTHOUGH PRIMARILY A COMPILATION OF INFORMATION
ALREADY AVAILABLE IN OTHER FORMS, THE DATA SHEETS MAY
PROVE USEFUL AS CONVENIENT HANDOUT MATERIAL. COOPER

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